UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

MINNIE THOMAS, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ALBERTSON'S; and SEATTLE OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS,

Defendants.

CASE NO. C06-1106C

MINUTE ORDER

The following Minute Order is made by direction of the Court, the Honorable John C. Coughenour, United States District Judge:

Plaintiffs have filed a Complaint (Dkt. No. 4) alleging violations of 42 U.S.C. § 1983. To state a claim under § 1983, Plaintiffs must establish (1) that they were "deprived of a right secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States" and (2) that "the alleged deprivation was committed under color of state law." *Am. Mfrs. Mut. Ins. Co. v. Sullivan*, 526 U.S. 40, 49–50 (1999). The "under-color-of-state-law element of § 1983 excludes from its reach 'merely private conduct no matter how discriminatory or wrongful." *Id.* (quoting *Blum v. Yaretsky*, 457 U.S. 991, 1002 (1982)) (additional internal quotes omitted).

With respect to Plaintiffs' claim against Defendant Albertson's, regardless of the rights Plaintiffs

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seek to protect under the first element of § 1983, they fail the second element because they allege no state action on the part of Albertson's. With respect to the claim against Defendant Seattle Office of Civil Rights, Plaintiffs have not alleged any facts that could show that their alleged injuries were the result of a "policy or custom" practiced by the municipal agency. See Monell v. Dep't of Soc. Servs., 436 U.S. 658, 690 (1978). Unless Plaintiffs can allege cognizable claims against these Defendants or additional parties, their Complaint will be dismissed. Accordingly, Plaintiffs are ORDERED to SHOW CAUSE by November 3, **2006** why their Complaint should not be dismissed for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. See FED. R. CIV. P. 12(b)(6). Plaintiffs may submit, along with their Response to this Show Cause Order, a proposed Amended Complaint. DATED this 15th day of September, 2006. BRUCE RIFKIN, Clerk of Court By <u>/s/ C. Ledesma</u> Deputy Clerk MINUTE ORDER – 2